

THEATRICAL NEWS AND GOSSIP

with the Philadelphia in one of its recent concerts in Wilmington. Miss Kasper has sung in Richmond, New York, Philadelphia, and other large cities, and has always received many flattering notices from the papers.

For this concert the program is unusually strong, the opening number being the overture "Sakuntala," by Goldmark, a work full of color and fine orchestration. Symphony No. 7, of Beethoven, in which one may mark the purely emotional character of the composer, and on this ground it would be difficult to contest its claim to the highest place of all; the Aria from "Louise," Charpentier, and the Jewel Song, "Faust," Gounod, Miss Kasper, and ending with the overture "Le Carnaval Romain," Berlioz, a work of fascinating rhythm, warmth, and color.

"HAPPY HOOLIGAN" DUE AT MAJESTIC TOMORROW

The patrons of the Majestic are promised one of the funniest and best musical comedies in this week's offering. "Happy Hooligan's Trip Around the World," "Happy Hooligan" will, with the assistance of a large company of comedians, and pretty girls, try to keep the audience in a continuous round of laughter from the rise to the fall of the curtain. The many situations which "Happy" gets into have been woven into an entertaining story, and the various mishaps that overtake him will form the comedy. The production is said to be elaborately staged and costumed. The usual matinees will be given Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.

Trans-Atlantic Burlesquers.

"The Trans-Atlantic Burlesquers" present this season "Two Hot Knights" and "A Gay Modiste." Two musical comedies said to be a conglomeration of animated fun and nonsense, richly seasoned with tuneful conceits furnished for a like purpose. They will be at Gayety, and remain as the attraction for one week, beginning with a matinee tomorrow.

A number of comedians will carry the bulk of the fun, and they are said to understand how to keep their audience in roars of laughter throughout the performance. An array of vaudevillians, including Lizzie Freilich, the girl with the smile; Kalinowski Brothers, European acrobats; the opera queen, Norma Bell, and her musical ponies; Fitzgerald & Quinn, just two comedians; "Frio," consisting of Val Raynor, James White, and Frank Killion, novelty singers, and Sisters DeCraff, the girls with the big voice, are in the cast.

A host of pretty girls, who can sing and dance, beautiful costumes, and scenic effects, are promised.

"Rialto Rounders." "Rialto Rounders" is the name of the attraction billed to appear at the New Lyceum Theater commencing with the regular matinee tomorrow. The "Rounders" is said to be a very pleasing burlesque institution, being especially noted for its "spicy" offerings, costumes, gorgeous and brilliant scenery, and its small army of well-built women, all of whom are bedecked with gay trappings and gilded ornaments of Oriental style. "A Day at Niagara Falls" is the name of the first part.

The conclusion of the entertainment is a racy burlesque entitled "A Day at Sheephead Bay."

A good vaudeville olio is promised between the two burlettas.

BROADWAY WANTS MADAME NAZIMOVA TO REMAIN THERE

The few cities that will enjoy a visit from Nazimova, one of the greatest actresses of the day, during her brief tour this season, are in rare good fortune. New York discovered this woman, and New York wants her for its very own. But the Managers, Shubert, upon assuming her management nearly two seasons ago, promised her to a few cities this season, little thinking that the demands of Broadway would continue so long without the slightest cessation.

The contracts having been entered into, however, they will be fulfilled, and perhaps it is well that Broadway should not do so. The Managers, Shubert, upon assuming her management nearly two seasons ago, promised her to a few cities this season, little thinking that the demands of Broadway would continue so long without the slightest cessation.

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Attractions Next Week

Miss Eleanor Robson is scheduled to make her appearance at the New National next week.

This season Miss Robson brings with her one of the successful plays of the present dramatic era. "Salome Jane," written for her by Paul Armstrong, and the piece that is reported to have made New York gasp with astonishment on the night of its first presentation at the Liberty Theater.

Associated with Miss Robson in this play will be found a company of players of worth, whose names alone are a guarantee of ability. The scenic effects, it is said, beautiful and entrancing creations of the artist's craft.

In the forthcoming production of the new Clyde Fitch three-act comedy, "Girls," which the Messrs. Shubert will present at the Belasco next week, the author has seized upon the humorous side of a bachelor girl's existence to create what he terms to be a play built for laughing purposes. Prominent in the company are Charles Cherry, Laura Nelson Hall, Amy Ricard, Zella Sears, Fanchon Campbell, Ruth Maycliffe, and Herbert Standing. Mr. Fitch personally conducted the rehearsals.

The production is said to be complete in every detail, while the dresses of the ladies reflect the latest spring styles.

Charles Frohman will present William Collier in "Caught in the Rain," the funniest farce of recent years at the Columbia next week. Originally seen in Washington about a year and a half ago, "Caught in the Rain" was then taken to New York, where it was played for more than seven months at the Garfield Theater. During the long run Mr. Collier and Grant Stewart, the authors, made several changes in the play and introduced one or two new characters.

Mr. Frohman has surrounded Mr. Collier with a company including Albert Perry, John Saville, William H. Post, Richard Sterling, Reginald Mason, Charles Poor, Thomas Beauregard, Thomas Martin, John Adam, Thomas Lennon, Ah Sam, Ellen Mortimer, Helena Collier-Garrick, Jane Laurel, and Anna Bradley.

Chase's next week promises to let its patrons revel in the joys and jollifications occasioned by a polite vaudeville bill containing the American military spectacle, "Our U. S. A. Boys," just home from a three years' tour of Europe. Chris Richards, the eccentric dancing comedian; Emmet Corrigan and company in "The Card Party"; the Olivetti Troubadours; Harry Armstrong and William Clark; Henry Olive and company; W. B. Harvey's comedians; and the motion pictures, "The Military Tournament at Samur."

There is much interest in Mme. Marcela Sembrich, who is to be heard here March 10, at the New National Theater, under London Charlton's direction, and it is expected that the prima donna will receive a royal welcome. Ellison Van Hoose, who is to be heard here with Mme. Sembrich, has been lauded everywhere. While soloist with the Pittsburgh Orchestra, he won special praise.

Michael de Zadora, the Polish pianist, will also play.

At the New Academy week of March 9, local play-goers will have another opportunity to enjoy that drama of the Blue Grass State, "In Old Kentucky." This vigorous, picturesque, and thrilling play has, apparently, never worn out its welcome here, notwithstanding the fact that it has been a regular visitor for many years. In fact, this is the fifteenth consecutive season of "In Old Kentucky."

"Are You a Mason?" will be next week's offering at the Majestic. It is said it will be presented by an unusually strong company of players and will be the first time the playgoers of Washington will witness it at popular prices.

"FOLLIES OF 1907" TO RETURN.

The management of the New National Theater has announced a return of "The Follies of 1907" before the close of the present season.

Bernard Scores In His New Play, "Nearly a Hero"

By A. H. BALLARD.

NEW YORK, Feb. 29. SAM BERNARD nearly stirred up New York to the extra-enthusiastic point the other night with his starring effort in "Nearly a Hero," book by Harry B. Smith and music by everybody.

The Casino rang with plaudits and laughter. Bernard, true artist that he is, genuine character actor, glistering humorist, temperamentally funny to the core, caught the sympathetic strain of the big crowd present, and made good again, with a par; that was less than the late "Peggy Figgengerhimer," but, nevertheless, an agreeable role with which to conjure. Under another name, understand, they tried out the piece in Philadelphia, or somewhere in obscurity, and finally decided to make it as smart as the law allows, and bring it to New York town for a hurrah on Broadway.

Well, it is full of beaming, glorious girls; teeming with gorgeous costume and scintillating scenery, it is swift as narrow-running rapids; it is full of attractive novelties which are conventionally up-to-date; it is not raw; it is, rather, fleshy, to be sure, and racy certainly; there are many dabs of assumed ratiolisms, such as, for example, Ethel Levey remarks, as she shows a jeweled bracelet which has been given to her by a wicked old boy: "Be good and you'll be happy, but you won't help Tiffany any."

Also, just now there seems to be an easily opened flood of acclaim when you remark that the high rollers are "stingy now since the person who does not know the difference between Churchill and Sherry's, seems to be enormously witty, some way or another, to the average audience. You should remember that the majority of the Broadway audience are made up of visitors, and you will readily understand the prompt approval of the play in response to local gaze is largely in consequence of a disposition to laugh at any and all times, so that the laughter may not appear green. The regulars and the first nighters are stolid as a rock, and the fun has got to demonstrate itself plainly before they will crack a smile.

Far Above the Medium.

But the general smoothness and high-colored finish of the performance at the Casino were far above the medium. Bernard and Miss Levey constituted the star and the "featured" principal. Miss Levey worked extremely hard, wore many clothes, and sang with a raucous voice. She is an artist in her way, but it is a sharp and metallic way. I mean, that I cannot feel the slightest semblance of feminine charm about her presence.

She repels me with her studied and overdone officiousness, instead of drawing me with a perfect and nicely balanced performance. Gaudy, even Parisian, clothes, do not make up for that utter lack of sweetness. But she is capable, and she pulls along the over-loaded burlesques, as much as any one else, perhaps a little more than anyone else, in the company. Her shoes, her stockings, her hair, her hands, make a picture on which models will be duplicated. It's a show in itself.

Ada Lewis started in the first act to do the job of her life—she held her head like Nazimova, read her lines like Ethel Barrymore, imitated some of Maude Adams in her mental impression, and stirred a lot of Ada Lewis into the mixture—to begin creating one of the most

interesting and splendid composite "imitations" I have ever seen. And then, alas, she was given very little to do the rest of the evening.

Makes Good With Visitors.

"Nearly a Hero" will go for a while. It makes the residents from afar think that they are getting a lovely insight into something very inside and devilish. It fits mirrors the popular idea of doings among the money-lavish of a great city. A multitude of yaps are already yapping at it. And it is funny, too, in spots. It is beautiful, too, all over. It is expensive. The best that could be got are in the cast. I might wish that the rumor that Cissy Loftus is to appear, may prove true. Oh, what an added excuse for going to the Casino nowadays that would be! She adds a touch of dearness and fascination to everything she comes in contact with.

But we must be content, for the present, with Miss Levey taking the prominent female role. Yet there were two or three other girls who waxed dangerous in the running, as the night wore on. Elizabeth Brice, as a French maid, sang with grace and hit the experienced right in the eye with her Russian dance. Nava Aymar, "the girl next door," was an alluring soubrette that lingered in one's memory after the curtain went down. Bernard has a trio of songs that will be talked about, especially "I Was a Hero."

"Paid in Full" Mediocre.

"Paid in Full," a play of "contemporary American life" by Eugene Walter, was presented on Tuesday night at the Astor Theater.

The play seems to miss fire in a good many respects. It has some clever dialogue, a capable cast, and is finely staged, but the first two acts are unpleasant and devoted to sordid trivialities. The third is strong and interesting, while the fourth is utterly useless, as the play logically ends with the fall of the curtain on the third act. Among the players, first honors fall on the shoulders of Frank Sheridan, who, as Captain Williams, does some excellent character work, and makes a strong impression.

Lillian Albertson, who has the leading woman's part, does not exactly fill the requirements. Miss Albertson was very effective in "The Silver Girl" early in the season, and much was expected of her in "Paid in Full." She is pretty, sweet, and passive, but does not rise to emotional height when required, with the explosive and temperamental strength that her present part demands.

Sunday Amusements.

The concert at the Belasco Theater tonight is promised to be unusually interesting. The entertainment consists principally of motion pictures. The management, through their agents, have just secured a series of films imported from Europe which are said to be strikingly realistic, amusing, and educational. The travel series for tonight will be a visit to the principal places of interest in the larger cities of this country.

The Sunday concerts at the Academy offer entertainment to those seeking amusement on the day of rest. The program is a varied one, entirely changed each Sunday, and consists of two hours of comedy and dramatic moving pictures, interspersed with excellent vocal numbers by clever entertainers, and music by the concert orchestra. The soloists engaged for tonight are Edward S. Allen and Harry A. Chick.

The Metropolitan Quartette, made up of four Washington young men, is the (Continued on Seventh Page.)

BELASCO Beginning TOMORROW NIGHT ONLY MATINEE SATURDAY ONE WEEK

DAVID BELASCO Presents

THE ROSE OF THE RANCHO

An American Play by David Belasco and R. W. Tully

With MISS FRANCES STARR

And the Original Company of Distinguished Players, Including:

Charles Richman Hamilton Revelle John W. Cope
J. Harry Benrimo Frank Losee Oscar Eagle
Maria Davis Grace Gayler-Clark Marta Melean

2 YEARS AT THE BELASCO THEATRE, N. Y.

ANOTHER TRIUMPH OF ART AND INDEPENDENCE OVER THE ATTEMPTED COMMERCIALIZATION OF THE AMERICAN STAGE.

SPECIAL!
NEXT WEEK - SEATS TUESDAY
First Time on Any Stage!
Sam. S. and Lee Shubert (Inc.) Present
Glyde Fitch's
Latest and Most Brilliant Comedy
GIRLS
With a Distinguished Cast

TONIGHT
MAGNIFICENT
PICTURE CONCERT
Wonderful Life-Like Effects
25c and 50c
Week of March 16
HENRY MILLER'S
ASSOCIATED PLAYERS
In CHARLES RANN KENNEDY'S
Powerful and Heart-Affecting Play
of Modern Life,
THE SERVANT
IN THE HOUSE

ANNOUNCEMENT!
Madame NAZIMOVA
The Great Russian actress, comes to the Belasco Theatre next week beginning March 23, after playing two sensational seasons at the Bijou Theatre, New York. Her plays are presented in English with a repertoire in this language including "The Doll's House," "The Master Builder," Robert Bracco's "COMTESS COQUETTE," and her latest New York success, Owen Johnson's "THE COMET." Patrons are invited to select from the above list the plays they would prefer to attend. Fill out the blank below with your selection and mail to Belasco Theatre. The three most requested plays will be presented.
I prefer

COLUMBIA LEADING THEATRE

ALL THIS WEEK—MATINEES THURS. AND SAT.

Charles Frohman Presents

TODDLES

A Comedy in Three Acts, Adapted by CLYDE FITCH

from the French of Bernard and Godefroux.

Two Years in London

One Year in Paris

One Year in Berlin

One Year in Vienna

BIGGEST AND BEST COMEDY CAST EVER SEEN HERE

NEXT WEEK

A CLOUDBURST OF LAUGHTER!

CHARLES FROHMAN Presents

WILLIAM COLLIER

In the Funniest Comedy in Years

CAUGHT IN THE RAIN

By William Collier and Grant Stewart

MAJESTIC THEATRE

Mats. Mon., Wed., Sat., 2:15-25c.
Evenings, 8:15-25c to 75c.
Good Seats on Main Floor, 25c.

THE EXTRAVAGANT COMEDY SUCCESS.

HAPPY HOOLIGAN

ALL NEW FUN!

SPECIAL NOTICE!
Skating Contest Tuesday Evening, Dancing Contest Friday Evening.

Next Week—"RIP VAN WINKLE."

TONIGHT HIGH-CLASS VAUDEVILLE CONCERT.

Special Attraction, Metropolitan Quartet; Washington's Favorites. New Pictures.

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Gayety Theatre

NINTH NEAR F ST.

Commencing Monday, March 2, and All Week—Matinee Every Day.

THE NEW Transatlantic Burlesquers

And the Latest Parisian Novelty

"The Gay Modiste"

and Kalinowski Bros.

Direct From the European Music Halls

Handsome Chorus of 25

Seats Reserved Until 8 o'clock Sharp.

GRAND CONCERT TONIGHT

All New Novelties

Popular Prices.

Smoking Concerts.

Next Week, Bob Manchester's Vanity Fair Company.

CHASE'S

As the Great, largest, and most popular of the "Big" DAILY EVENING.

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